

The State Sentinel will contain a much larger amount of reading matter, on all subjects of general interest, than any other newspaper in Indiana.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION
Is published every Wednesday and Saturday, and during the session of the Legislature, three times a week, on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at Four Dollars a year, payable always in advance.

THE WEEKLY EDITION
Is published every Thursday, at Two Dollars a year, always to be paid in advance.
\$1 in advance will pay for six months.
\$5 will pay for three copies one year.
Persons remitting \$10 in advance, free of postage, shall have three copies of the Semi-Weekly one year. \$2 will pay for six months. \$1 will always be charged for the Tri-Weekly, and 50 cents for the Weekly, during the Legislative sessions.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted three times at one dollar a square of 8 lines, and continued at the rate of 25 cents a square for each additional insertion. Quarterly advertisements, per square, \$5. All advertisements from abroad must be accompanied by the cash; or no attention will be paid to them.
Postage must be paid.

Estuaries and Sinking Fund.

Under the caption of a horse cut (the cut of a picaune would have been more appropriate), the *Whig Express* recently renewed the annual "hue and cry" about the Estuary advertisements, and talked as if the *State Sentinel* had had something to do in establishing and perpetuating the existing estuary laws. Other papers assume the same tone, though it is well known that we have frequently advocated a change of those laws, such as they desire. This we did, not because the present system is not a good one for the public, perhaps the best that can be devised; but because we were willing to aid the local press in making as many dimes as they could, of a few of which perhaps they were deprived by the WHIG law under consideration. It is of course as much a matter of indifference to us personally now, as heretofore, for the profits and responsibilities of the "official" list are as likely to go into the hands of a whig as a democrat next winter.

But while the "Express" has its hand in, would it not be well for it to push its inquiries into the change made in the Sinking fund law, under the management of Mr. Dowling, last winter, by which the advertising of forfeited lands was taken away from the Indianapolis papers and cut up into a multitude of dribbles for the benefit alone of the "local" press, and at a cost of two or three times as much as had ever been charged for the same service by the Indianapolis papers?

Could it not also calculate the profits of the local papers, should they publish the estuary list under the present law? Suppose each paper in the State should receive its share. The sum for each would amount to about an average of seven dollars a year. Deduct say 50 cents for postage. On each publication of a notice, the publisher is to furnish 90 papers to the several county clerks. Suppose he does this but four times a year, (we do it monthly) and it would amount to 360 papers, which at the ordinary subscription prices would make \$14.40! This deducted from \$6.50 would certainly leave an immense capital! The fact is, under the old postage law, it was several times the case that the list subjected us to a loss; and under the new law, but a mere trifle is the profit. But small as it is, we were the very first editors in the State who spoke against the present law, and the slurs thrown at us, because that law makes it our duty to publish the list, are ungenerous and unjust, and can emanate from none but the smallest souls in existence.

THE RAILROAD.—The Madison Banner of the 16th says—

It gives us pleasure to state that the damage done to the Railroad near this city by the recent flood, is not as great as was anticipated. The Board of Directors were in session last week. They ordered a trestle bridge to be constructed to supply the loss of the culvert. This will be completed in a few weeks, and will last some five years; in the meantime the Company will at their leisure repair permanently the damage done. Many of our citizens here think that it would be good policy to abandon the plan altogether, and that it would be advantageous both to the Company and the city to construct a Macadamised road for the transportation of goods and passengers between the top of the hill and the river; but the Board of Directors are persuaded that the expense to the Company of transportation in ordinary carriages and wagons would be entirely too heavy, and they are compelled from necessity (for the present at least) to keep up the inclined plane.

We are informed that there is a plan on foot by which steam power will be used on the plane altogether, and thus dispense with the use of horses. The Company are about to get an engine so constructed as to be used on the plane as well as on the level.

DR. BOYNTON'S LECTURES.—The lectures delivered by Dr. Boynton, during the past week at the Court House, were well attended and gave general satisfaction. The Magnetic Telegraph worked to perfection, and various experiments in electro magnetism were very interesting. One can obtain more useful and practical information from these lectures than from a month's reading. We bespeak for Dr. Boynton the attention of our friends wherever he may lecture.

Dr. B. will deliver his last lecture in this place this evening at the Court House. All who desire to witness the Magnetic Telegraph in reality, should not miss the present opportunity. It is destined to work wonders equal to those of steam, and every person ought to be practically acquainted with its operations.

We would call the attention of the lovers of the "weed" in its various shapes, to the advertisement of Irving & Co. They have on hand the best assortment of Cigars, Tobacco, and Snuff, ever offered for sale in this city, as we can testify to by experience. Their assortment of Ale, Porter, and Brown Stout are such as this place has long been a stranger to; and if any one will take our word for it, we pledge them they will find such articles there as will please the taste and comfort the "inner man," without a resort to anything more "arid." We are glad to see such an establishment here, and hope it will receive a patronage commensurate with its merits.

HANOVER COLLEGE.—The Rev. Sylvester Sovell, D. D., of New Albany, Ia., has been appointed President of Hanover College, and has accepted. He will enter upon the duties next session, which will begin Sept. 25th. Rev. F. AUGUSTUS WILLARD, A. M., of Louisville, Ky., has been appointed Lecturer on Chemistry in the same institution. A new and complete chemical apparatus has lately been procured. The College will commence its next session under the most favorable auspices.

The "Newcastle Courier" is still talking about the "removal" of the old supreme judges, &c. Perhaps, like the *Brookline American*, the *Courier* will be by and by learned that so far from being "removed," the judges in question served out their full terms, and had no more claims to re-appointment than hundreds of other citizens equally well qualified in law knowledge and a great deal more industrious.

The Henderson Kentuckian says that recent heavy rains have ruined a great portion of the tobacco crop in that section.

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The Constitutional Convention.

It is argued by some, that because the 8th article of our State Constitution provides that on every 12th year from the time of its taking effect, there shall be a poll opened to test the sense of the people as to amendments, it follows that such an expression can be made at no other time. We cannot see any reason for such a conclusion either in this provision of the Constitution or upon any other ground. In fact, to our minds, this very provision expressly recognizes the propriety of an occasional convention for the purpose specified. There is nothing magical, so far as we can see, in the term of twelve years, any more than in any other number. Fixing upon that number might have been a matter of compromise or mere accident. At any rate the provision is not restrictive in the least. It does not take away the right of the people to hold a Convention every year, if they should be so disposed; it merely says they shall vote on the question every twelve years at least. On this matter the "Brookline Democrat" sensibly says:

"It will be observed that the section referred to makes it a duty of the officers of elections to open a poll, every twelfth year, at which this question shall be decided. It is not a duty to call for a convention, but to declare what shall be done; but as the section does not prohibit the holding of elections often than once in twelve years, for the same purpose. All constitutional prohibitions should be held sacred. And did that instrument deny the right of changing its features, except at specified periods, our whig friends would not be so ready to insist upon its inviolability, and a strict construction of its provisions. We look upon the following declaration of the rights of the people as a sufficient license for the taking of the question on the calling of a convention to modify the constitution, and as a privilege not denied them by any other section of the present instrument."

That all power is inherent in the people; and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness. For the advancement of these ends, they have, at all times, an unalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform, or change their government in such manner as they may think proper.—Art. 1 Sec. 2 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana.

"Now, if we read right, and understand the meaning of English monarchies, the people have a right, 'at all times' (not only once in a series of years) to alter or reform their government.' Where, then, is the ground of objection to the calling of the convention? Oh, say Whig editors, section 1 of article 8 says there shall be an election held, every twelfth year, to test the opinion of the people on the question of a change. Very true; but section 2 of article 1 declares that the people have a right to alter or reform their government 'at all times.' Any power that is unalienable cannot be transferred from the people to any charter or body politic, whatever. If the right is inalienable, then there can be no power that can alienate this right from the people. Therefore, the section speaking of 'every twelfth year,' is a mere limitation, and does not deprive the people of their 'unalienable and indefeasible' right to change their constitution at any time and in such manner as they may think proper."

The Cincinnati Advertiser makes the following just remarks in relation to the result of the late election in Indiana. It will be well for our party to profit hereafter by the lesson now before us:

INDIANA ELECTION.—AN IMPORTANT LESSON.—The majority by which Gov. WHITCOMB is re-elected in Indiana, is nearly or quite twice as many as the whigs making use of every means, fair and foul, to carry their candidate. This candidate traversed the State; made speeches in every section, and personally canvassed for support. Notwithstanding all this exertion, the result is as above indicated—proving beyond all controversy, that Indiana is essentially a democratic State.

But the Legislature is whig, withal. The minority party actually controls the State, and dictates laws to the majority—fills all offices elective by the legislature, and gives a wrong tone and direction to the public policy. This, of course ought not to be, as a matter of justice; while in the light of expediency, it is a most bootless victory—an empty triumph—the name, but not the substance and fact of success. Let us learn how this result has been brought about, and let us profit by the knowledge thus obtained. There are many who will suffer themselves to be deluded into the idea, that a vote for Governor is all that their party principles require. True democracy is feeling, loving, generous, and kind. It is the measure of the party, they make it a point of rigid observance that their votes shall count in the official tally list, which determines the relative strength of parties—but determines nothing else, except that A. B. shall be Governor for two years. But as to matters of the legislature—this whig is a clever man, and let us profit by the knowledge thus obtained. There are many who will suffer themselves to be deluded into the idea, that a vote for Governor is all that their party principles require. True democracy is feeling, loving, generous, and kind. It is the measure of the party, they make it a point of rigid observance that their votes shall count in the official tally list, which determines the relative strength of parties—but determines nothing else, except that A. B. shall be Governor for two years. But as to matters of the legislature—this whig is a clever man, and let us profit by the knowledge thus obtained.

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This is precisely the method in which the result in question has been brought about in Indiana.

POLITICAL VILLANY.—The Washington Union exposes a system of organized villany on the part of the Whig leaders, as follows:

"It is stated that the whig members of Congress, before the late session adjourned, appointed a standing committee, whose duty it should be to frank and circulate documents throughout the country, and especially in the slave States where elections are coming during the present autumn. We are informed that they have rented a room on Pennsylvania avenue nearly opposite Jackson Hall. They have raised a common—perhaps not inconsiderable—fund for printing off several thousands of documents—the estimate is said to be from 150,000 to 200,000. Among these is the tariff speech of Mr. Andrew Stewart, of Pennsylvania, with the imprint of a 'revised edition,' and Mr. Daniel Webster's speech on the tariff. The tariff is to be the principal topic by which the whigs expect to revolutionize the people; and the speeches delivered before Congress are the principal weapons to be employed. The documents, when printed, are sent to the fold room of the House of Representatives, &c., where they are regularly enveloped by the folders attached to the House, and with wrapping paper prepared and paid for by Congress; thence they are carried to the room of the committee, where they are franked by one of its members. This organization is similar to the whig scheme of 1844. Some members of the committee come to Washington to do their franking privilege upon a large scale, and to flood the country with party documents. When an election is coming on in a particular State, the battery is most probably actively directed to that point. Pennsylvania is now the great battle ground, and we presume no exertions are to be spared to operate upon her people. The tariff arguments are to be poured in upon her, and, of consequence, she is to be inundated with the speeches of its champions. We understand that Mr. Ramsey, a member of the House of Representatives from Pennsylvania, is now at his post, franking away in high style, and firing his canister shot in all directions."

"REIN."—Five thousand four hundred and thirty-nine bales of domestic goods were exported from Boston during the month of August.

The Magnesian Telegraph is to be extended from Washington to Richmond, Va., by the middle of December next.

Independent Newspapers.

We find the following sensible remarks in the Philadelphia Ledger. The concluding sentences we conceive to be especially appropriate and just:

"A Boston paper says that a citizen of Massachusetts has discontinued the Washington Union, because it supports doctrines to which the paper cannot assent. The Boston paper mentions this as something important and commendable, and a New York journal ridicules it as an instance of impotent folly. We regard this single instance of stoppage as a title, which cannot seriously affect the Union, or any other journal, but we regard the principle involved as very important, though far from being commendable. If the views of the stopper should be extensively reduced to practice, every journal must become each man's organ by turn, having a little of every body's opinion, and none of its own, or each set of subscribers to a journal must have only one set of opinions, to which all of them must invariably conform. Hence, in spite of every thing by turns and nothing long, or short its eyes to all progress, and remain fixed in one position, in spite of all new discovery or conviction. Such journals would be admirably independent, or admirably inconsistent."

The miserable tyranny that some men would exercise over the press, by trying to "stop my paper" whenever a journal contains any thing to which they do not assent, flows from the very spirit that established the Inquisition, burned Servetus, hanged the Quakers, and drove Roger Williams into Rhode Island. It is the spirit of opposition to freedom of thought, which cannot but be ignorant and narrow-minded, and which can never be exercised without producing mischief of some kind. Would the man who stopped a journal have a newspaper exclusively for his opinion? As all his neighbors have an equal right to this, if they should happen to agree upon nothing, each would be compelled to establish a newspaper for his own use; or discontinue his American necessity of life. To procure good newspapers, wise men leave them to their own free action, wisely concluding that those whose thoughts are the least fettered think the most correctly. Hence, when they do not agree with their newspaper, they send their own opinions to the printer, or remain silent; saying to themselves, "I agree on some other things, and so better look next time!" Fools only, who have taken a journal because they were satisfied with its general course, cry "stop my paper," because it differs with them on a particular point.

IRON MANUFACTURE.—The Journal of Commerce, as we have no doubt with good reason, says, that iron can be made as cheaply in the United States as anywhere on the globe. They say that the price of labor is much dearer here than elsewhere. So it is, for the moment; for the enormous profits of the business have forced new establishments into existence so rapidly, that they have bid upon each other, until the wages of good men have risen to four, five, and even seven dollars a day. Pig iron has been made to cost \$17 a ton to the maker, so that he has only doubled his money by the sales at \$34. But it can be made at \$12, and less; as all these distracted men well understand. The profits of the iron makers under the Tariff of 1842, have been altogether frightful. In some cases they have cleared the cost of their establishments in one year. A great proportion of the manufacturers are satisfied with the new bill. It is largely protective; as much so as many of them desired in 1842. But then, expecting to get half what they asked for, they asked for twice what they wanted, and got the whole. Now they have a good bill—a bill which if they act wisely, will delay the movements of free trade for some years, though further reductions are sure to be made eventually.

The sensible Brussels correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger remarks that the rulers of England are doubtless inclined to make their peace with the American Democracy, but they do it despondingly; knowing that in time of peace Democracy makes even more fearful inroads on their institutions than during actual war. A war for instance, might have saved the corn law; but the peace of thirty years brought it down. A war excites tumultuous passions, which overpower reason or prevent judgment from being exercised; peace develops the arts of peace, and allows the mind to investigate the sources of right.

Europe in three hundred years did not make as much progress in political science, as during the last thirty years of peace. Never before—not even during the French revolution—was Europe so much troubled by American ideas.

DEATH OF A MEMBER OF CONGRESS.—HON. FELIX GRUNDY McCONNELL, Member of Congress from Alabama, committed suicide at the St. Charles Hotel, Washington City, on the morning of the 10th inst.

It appears that the deceased terminated his existence by deliberately cutting the jugular veins on each side of his throat, and by inflicting deep wounds in his sides, with a knife. Two of the slabs were nearly perpendicular. The others glanced off from the bones and made frightful gashes. His friend said that for about a week past he had relinquished drinking, owing to indisposition, and that the absence of his usual stimulus caused great despondency. He was in fact suffering the horrors of delirium tremens. A short time before he committed the deed, he called for pen and ink, for the purpose, it is supposed, of writing to his wife.

GIARD COLLEGE.—After some sixteen years of shameful delay, and quite as many of swindling, the Giard College at Philadelphia has been completed, by the placing of the central crowning stone in the corner of the pediment of the northern portion of the central building. As long as one stone of these gorgeous buildings remains upon another, they will stand as a monument of the faithlessness of Philadelphia to the most sacred of trusts. No other city in this Union could have acted so basely, because no other city's honor and morals were ever so deeply corrupted by the United States Bank.

The statue of Stephen Girard, designed to be placed in the college at Philadelphia, and executed by Mr. Givrol, at Paris, has arrived. It is the size of life, done in solid marble with the representation of the same coat, the same vest, pantaloons and boots which he wore when in the discharge of his duty as urainer, merchant and banker.

"What right has a Democratic Secretary to have the good? Gout is an aristocratic disease, got from high living. Let the 'Democracy' look to it. Such a man is no friend of hard workers."—Cincinnati Chronicle.

The Chronicle is as lame in its pathology as it is in its politics. Gout is not an exclusively aristocratic disease, nor is high living always necessary to beget it. Sedentary habits, though accompanied by extreme abstemiousness, sometimes engender gout. We know this by our own experience; for while a hard-working apprentice, of not over an hundred pounds gross weight, he had the gout. Nobody ever suspected us of "aristocracy" or "high living" at that time, whatever they may have done since.

The Logansport Telegraph denies that the Whigs ever admitted the pet bank system, but on the contrary affirms that they were always hostile to it. They took a queer way of showing their hostility, for, from the time it was demonstrated to be impracticable, the Whig party sustained the system, and were the means of its perpetuation for years, notwithstanding the original denunciations of their leaders against it. During the very last session of Congress the Whigs voted to continue the pet bank system to a man. The Telegraph is green.

HON. FRAZER.—Blackwood pronounces G. W. CUTTIE'S Song of Steam, "the best lyric of the century."

Judge LUKE E. LAWLESS, a distinguished citizen of St. Louis, died on the 12th inst.

Mr. McLane.

The principal merchants of New York have waited upon Mr. McLane and tendered him a public dinner. To the committee who presented the resolution of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. McLane made a pertinent answer, from which we make the following extract:

For myself, after our several conventions of 1818 and 1828, [the latter of which received my support as Senator of the United States,] for the joint occupation of the territory, I had always regarded the Oregon question as less dependent upon the force of title than upon the principles of an equitable partition. It would have been unreasonable to expect, after such acknowledgments of the rights of joint occupancy, that either party would be permitted wholly to dispose of the other, without some regard to interests which had grown up during their mutual possession. It appeared to me, also, that all the previous acts of our government had not only been consistent with, but affirmatory of these views, and I could see nothing in the national honor that would justify, much less demand, a departure from it. Possessing before, in an equal degree as we have now, the right of discovery, all the title which on the ground of discovery we could assert to the country drained by the waters of the Columbia, and which if good for anything, was valid beyond the 52d parallel of latitude, our government at no time proposed a more northern boundary than the parallel of 51, and never demanded more than the 49th. Having some knowledge, from my official position at that time, of the policy and objects of the convention of 1829, I am quite persuaded that its main design was to lead to a future partition of the territory to the recognition of our claim to the country, not north, but south of the 49th parallel, and between that and the Columbia river. A division of the country upon that principle, with a reasonable regard to rights growing up under the joint possession, always appeared to me to afford a just and practicable basis for an amicable and honorable adjustment of the subject. Such also, I was satisfied, were the views of my own government at the time I engaged in my recent mission, and in earnestly and steadily laboring to effect a settlement upon that basis, I was but representing the policy of my own government, and faithfully promoting the intention and wishes of the President.

It must be very rare, if, in complicated differences between great nations, peaceful relations can be preserved without some modification of extreme pretensions; and upon the present occasion, from the length of time for which the question had been depending, together with the often repeated propositions on both sides, the two governments could not have been reasonably expected to come to an amicable arrangement without some mutual concessions of their former demands. If, on our side, by dividing on the 49th parallel, we yielded the whole of the territory, from the mouth of Vancouver's Island, Great Britain surrendered her previous claim to the navigation and unoccupied territory between the 49th parallel and the Columbia river. At the same time we have effected a material modification of our former offer of the surrender of the perpetual navigation of the Columbia river to British vessels, and upon the present occasion, from the length of time for which the question had been depending, together with the often repeated propositions on both sides, the two governments could not have been reasonably expected to come to an amicable arrangement without some mutual concessions of their former demands. If, on our side, by dividing on the 49th parallel, we yielded the whole of the territory, from the mouth of Vancouver's Island, Great Britain surrendered her previous claim to the navigation and unoccupied territory between the 49th parallel and the Columbia river. At the same time we have effected a material modification of our former offer of the surrender of the perpetual navigation of the Columbia river to British vessels, and upon the present occasion, from the length of time for which the question had been depending, together with the often repeated propositions on both sides, the two governments could not have been reasonably expected to come to an amicable arrangement without some mutual concessions of their former demands.

It seems to me that in the present state of commerce, it is not only the interest, but the practice of nations, independent of solemn inveterate notions of colonial pride already yielding to more enlightened views, to allow the greatest freedom of rivers and ports to the trade of the world; and it may be observed, that until the United States and Great Britain shall determine to abandon the reciprocity secured by their existing commercial convention, the recent Oregon treaty cannot be considered as a real concession, but as a mere claim and counterclaim, and as such, it is not a concession, but a mere claim and counterclaim, and as such, it is not a concession, but a mere claim and counterclaim.

Universal satisfaction at the adjustment of a difficulty so complicated and intricate was scarcely to be expected, and yet it is a source of satisfaction to know that its general adjustment has been so completely effected, and that in preserving the blessings of peace, and keeping our country steadily in a career of glorious prosperity, they will be amply compensated for any disappointment they may have experienced, and they gain far more than an equivalent for any doubtful advantage only to be sought through the instrumentality of war. Having now effected, upon honorable terms, the last cause that threatened the peace of two people of kindred origin, and associated by commercial relations more extensive and important than exist between any other two nations of the earth, may we not now hope to begin a new career of international intercourse, and by the uninterrupted pursuit of commerce and the arts, extend and cement our relations. It ought to be considered as fortunate that these results have happened at a moment when, by the wisdom and courage of British statesmen, a new and important step has been taken in the enlargement of commerce, by which the trade of the world is more widely extended, and the motives of harmonious relations indefinitely multiplied. As between the United States and Great Britain especially, the causes which ought naturally to associate the two people upon an honorable basis, and contribute to their mutual prosperity, may now have fair play, and our competitions in future be confined to the happy rivalry of the people of both countries, and of mankind at large.

Appointments by the President.
GEORGE BANCROFT, of Massachusetts, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, vice Louis McLane, recalled at his own request.
JOHN Y. MASON, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Navy of the United States, vice Hon. George Bancroft, resigned.

The Steamboat Excelsior, plying on the Hudson, lately burst her boiler, just after leaving the wharf on the North River. She had a large number of passengers on board and but few of them escaped, except by leaping overboard into the stream, as the boat was almost immediately enveloped in flames. It is not known how many lives have been lost, but it is feared that the number is not less than from twenty-four to thirty. All that jumped overboard were saved.

SUICIDE.—Levi Hoover, a respectable citizen of Henry county, committed suicide a few days since, by cutting his throat with a razor. The Cambridge Revere says he was apparently rational, and previous to his death gave no reason for the fatal act, except that he was tired of life, and had no wish to live.

Ireland.

The London correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce under date of August 3, gives the following intelligence relative to the Emerald Isle:

Affairs have come to a crisis in the Repeal association at Dublin. The Young Ireland party have persisted in the advocacy and promulgation of their pernicious doctrines of 'physical force,' and Mr. Smith O'Brien has maintained the prudence of such policy, and his identification with the same. At the last meeting in Conciliation Hall the rupture was complete, and Mr. O'Brien withdrew himself from the association, accompanied by several gentlemen. Mr. Meagher advocated the most revolutionary notions, and made sedition remarks which would have subjected the chairman, who was the Lord Mayor, and all present, to the penalties due for high treason; but he was stopped by Mr. John O'Connell, the member for Kilkenny, who declared that after such statements, such bold unqualified avowals, he must retire from the association. This was received by the movement of Mr. O'Brien which I have already described. The repealers now therefore consist of two parties, the 'moral force,' repealers with O'Connell at their head, and the 'physical force' repealers with Smith O'Brien as their leader. The organ of the latter is the 'Nation,' a Dublin newspaper of great circulation, and influence with the masses. The movement originated with the gentlemen connected with the 'Nation,' and it has been supported by them with their accustomed ability. Mr. Duffy, the principal proprietor of the paper, insists that physical force was always advocated, up to the time of the monster trials; but Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Steele, and other leading members of the movement, repudiate the statement as utterly false, and maintain that they never would achieve any good, however great and lasting, purchased by even one drop of blood.

You are aware that the late Irish government dismissed about seventy gentlemen from the magistracy, because they had attended repeal meetings, or in some way advocated that question. The present ministry have resolved to redress those harsh measures of the late administration, and to restore to the commission of the peace every person who was unjustly deprived of it. As the first act of the Russell cabinet in view of justice to Ireland is so emphatic, much may be hoped for the future, and it is quite evident that O'Connell has good ground for belief that something great will be done for Ireland, or he would not be so well as a fair and impartial trial. Mr. O'Connell's youngest son has been elected M. P. for Dundalk.

FIRST AMERICAN STANDARD.—The following extract is from the London Morning Chronicle, of July 22, 1770. The analogies of the first American ensign are ingeniously set forth; yet as our prejudices against the snake are deeply rooted, and as old as original sin itself, few of our countrymen will regret that the device was changed. The extract, however, is a curiosity, and will be quite new to nine-tenths of the present generation:

"The colors of the American flag have a snake with thirteen rattles, the fourteenth budding, described in the motto of the ensign, with the words, 'Don't tread on me.' It is a strike in heraldry, that the worthy properties of the animal, in the crest borne, shall be considered, and the base one cannot be intended. The ancients accounted a snake or a serpent an emblem of wisdom, and in certain attitudes, of endless duration. The rattlesnake is properly an emblem of America, as the animal is found in no other part of the world. The eye of this creature excels in brightness most of any other animal. She has no eyelids, and is therefore an emblem of vigilance. She never begins an attack, nor ever surrenders; she is therefore an emblem of magnanimity and true courage. When injured, or in danger of being injured, she never wounds herself, she has given no quarter to her enemies of her kind. No other of her kind shows such generosity. When undisturbed, and in peace, she does not appear to be furnished with weapons of any kind. They are latent in the roof of her mouth, and even when extended for her defence, appear to those who are not acquainted with her to be weak and contemptible. She is not a coward, but she is decisive and fatal. She is solitary, and associates with her kind only when it is necessary for their preservation. Her poison is at once the necessary means of digesting her food, and certain destruction to her enemies. The power of fascination attributed to her, by a generous construction, resembles her power of self defence, and is equally necessary to her. She is frequently found with thirteen rattles, and they increase yearly. She is beautiful in youth and her beauty increases with her age; her tongue is blue and forked as lightning."

GETTING A SECRET.—The Daily Sentinel says the French are a droll people—their newspapers contain the queerest reports. Here is the latest:

A Mlle de A.—became indisposed, so her father called in the family doctor and left them together. The doctor was a Frenchman, and was suspicious of the cause of the young lady's sickness. He drew a lancet from his pocket to bleed her, but at the moment he pressed the vein, he exclaimed: "Ah, mon Dieu!" "What is the matter, Monsieur?" "Mlle. I had nearly killed you." "Killed me?" "Listen!" (here he drew a lancet from his pocket) "here are two lancets; the first is for wives, the second for maids. You see how necessary it is to be careful in the use of surgical instruments. You are a maiden of course." "Certainly, Monsieur." "Well, if I bleed you with the wives' lancet, I should kill you—and vice versa. Now, Mlle, hold out your arm—this is the right lancet!" "Doctor?" "Mademoiselle!" "Take the other one."

COL. SCHOLTER. the editor of the Lowell Courier, is visiting the places of interest in England, Scotland, and Ireland. He writes home familiar letters, which appear in his Courier. He says:

"In none of the churches in Scotland, except the Episcopal and Catholic, is there any musical instrument used to aid the singing. Each church has what is called a Presbyter, whose seat is in front of the minister. He wears a gown and band. When the hymn is given out he selects the tune, and he has small signs with the names of the tunes pointed on his fingers. When he has selected the tune, he points to the sign containing the name of the selected tune, on a little pedestal, so that the congregation can see it, and then they all rise and he leads off, and the whole congregation join with him. There is something about this mode of singing which I prefer to any other. It is less mechanical, and more hearty than the singing of choirs. The ministers here all wear black gowns when in the pulpit, and their sermons are delivered extemporaneously, for the Scotch have a great horror of written sermons."

The researches into the origin of the family of Napoleon have recently attracted the attention of a number of genealogists, and we are to believe the Duke of Abruzzi, who himself claims to be a descendant of Charlemagne, the ancestors of the emperor originated in Greece. They formed part of a colony which first took refuge in Tuscany, after the invasion of the Turks, but afterwards established themselves in Corsica, where their descendants have preserved, she adds, the language, and even the costume, of their ancient country. But the ancestors of the conqueror of Marengo exchanged their names of Kalimeros for an Italian one, adopting that of Bonaparte.

RAILWAY BILLS OF 1846.—From a summary of the railway bills which have already received the assent of Parliament this session, the total length of road authorized to be made is 26724 miles, and the total sum authorized to be raised is £129,229,767. Of this almost incredible sum, £50,540,988 is to be raised by calls, and £58,688,849 by loans.—English paper.

Ad Valorem Duties.—Mr. Clay's Opinion of them.

When Mr. Webster stated, in the Senate, some weeks since, that "no public man in our country had ever ventured, before the last session of Congress, to recommend a system of ad valorem duties," we repeated that Mr. Clay had expressly approved such a system, and we quoted Mr. Clay's language to that effect. Thereupon the Whigs replied that Mr. Clay meant only to approve ad valorem duties on a home valuation. This statement has gone the rounds of the Whig journals. And Mr. Garrett Davis has lately published two or three columns in the National Intelligencer to sustain it.

This statement is entirely erroneous. Mr. Clay did indeed say, in the Senate, in 1811, 1842, that he preferred a home valuation; but he also said, over and over again, that he preferred the ad valorem system, without regard to a home valuation.

To prove this, we quote from Mr. Clay's speech in the Senate, in the discussions which preceded the enactment of the tariff of 1842. The speech may be found in Greeley and McElrath's edition of the Life and Speeches of Henry Clay, vol. 2d., pp. 592-3.

"I say, therefore, that, independent of all considerations of protection, independent of all ends or motives but the prevention of those infamous frauds which have been the disgrace of our custom-house—frauds in which the foreigner, with his double and triple and quadruple invoices, ready to be detected, and even the detection of the fraud, is a change may have in the augmentation of the revenue, I am not prepared to say, because I do not know the amount, I think the rate may be less than from twenty to twenty-five per cent. in addition to the foreign value of imports. I do not speak with great confidence. If the rate is twenty-five per cent., then it would add only five per cent. to the rate of twenty per cent. established by the compromise act. Of course, if the home be substituted for the foreign valuation, the augmentation of duties beyond twenty per cent. will be less by the amount of the increase of the rate. WITHOUT, HOWEVER, ENTERING INTO THE QUESTION OF HOME VALUATION, AND LEAVING THAT SUBJECT TO BE ABANDONED HEREFTER, I SHALL STATE THE SUBJECT AS THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF FOREIGN VALUATION IS TO CONTINUE."

After discussing, at some length, the amount of revenue required, and some other topics, Mr. Clay thus returns to the subject of ad valorem duties, saying "the subject" (he it observed) "as if the present system of foreign valuation was to continue."

He said: "What are the other principles of the act? First, there is the principle that a fixed AD VALOREM DUTY shall prevail and BE IN FORCE AT ALL TIMES. For one, I am willing to abide by that principle. There are certain vague and indefinite as to the utility and necessity of specific duties and discriminations, which, I am persuaded, arise from a want of a right understanding of the subject."

This is enough; but there is more. Under the compromise act, from 1832 to 1842, duties were collected upon the foreign valuation. Mr. Clay in this very speech recognized this fact, and points out what, in his view, are its inconveniences. Yet, in spite of the foreign valuation, during that whole period, he expressly approves of the application of the ad valorem principle during the same time. He says: "We have had the ad valorem principle practically in force ever since the compromise act was passed; and there has been no difficulty in ascertaining the duties of the treasury on that principle."

In another passage, he strengthens his assertion as follows: "Again: what has been the fact from the origin of the government until now? The articles from which the greatest amount of revenue has been derived, woolens, silks, cottons, worsteds, and a few others, have all been taxed on the ad valorem principle, and there has been no difficulty in the operation. I believe, upon the whole, that it is the best system of valuation that we have."

After this, it is idle to say that Mr. Clay's preference of ad valorem, in 1842, depended upon the then suggested home valuation. He approved them, he says, as they had existed for ten years "under the compromise act," when there was no home valuation. He expressed his regret that the compromise act was the subject as if the foreign valuation was to continue. He approved them as they had been had on the principal revenue articles, "woolens, silks, linens, worsteds, and others," "since the origin of the government." And since the origin of the government we had had a foreign valuation. Let us hear no more, therefore, of Mr. Clay's preference of a home valuation system, founded on the idea of a home valuation.

Pauper Labor.